

Laura Green. 30th Sept. 1838.

My dear Son,

This Elizabeth will drive me mad, unless I can first drive her out of her vagaries. Having little to do, she has taken it into her foolish head, by way of amusement, to dispose things in the house according to her taste. She has been even rummaging my cupboard for articles to set off a mantlepiece. Every thing I want is somewhere hidden by her unfair hands. Your bed-room furniture is all displaced to please herself; that and every thing else must be put back again in their proper places, or she will lose her place. I have just made the discovery, while she is taking her Sunday jaunt. If my present mind lasts, I'll give her warning.

Every one has been asking about your safe arrival, and I was glad to give the good news. I now look forward to other news, - that of your having found some situation to your mind. Any situation under a first rate engineer will

be worthy of your attention; but under a person who is inferior in his profession, even what may appear a good situation will, in all probability, be only loss of time. Before you fix with any one, seek the advice of some one capable to advise on such a point, — Mr. Lloyd's friend for instance, or some such person.

Addis's furniture was sold by auction two days ago. I bought the Cacti, and some odd things. They will be off before you receive this letter.

Should you go to Westminster, bring me my "Apocryphal New Testament", and the volume of "Billockton's Sermons".

Should you see Mr. Mathew Smith at Chichester, bring me my "Guida di Firenze".

Tell Leigh Hunt when you next see him that I shall be happy to hear from him of good.

Should you go to Ashford, give my best remembrances to all the Sulivans. Before you go, you had better write to learn if they are or are not at home; otherwise you may be at fault.

I believe I gave you Severus's address. Be sure you call on him soon, and let me know

when he thinks of coming to the west.

Mr. Fox and family are next door till their shipment. Poor Mrs. Berry comes here dolourous at Mitty's ill temper. She will leave a bad odour behind here. She was disappointed at the sale, - things were not run up high; then the vessel arrived, to be ready for her on exactly the appointed day, which is provoking. Even her two favourites now complain. No one can approach her with impunity.

I am beginning to set my greenhouse in order; it will make a fine show this winter. Give my spiritual love to Sidney, - a different sort of love to Mrs. Staples, - and kind remembrances to all friends. Uncle and brother Tom, it seems, are at Brossells, - for how long?

Your affectionate father,

Chas. Brooks.

I sent no letter by you for Mr. Wilson. Of course, go where you will, you must buy your own candles.

[Faint, illegible handwriting throughout the page, likely bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is too light to transcribe accurately.]

Remember that I have not quite got it over yet
and I am very well.